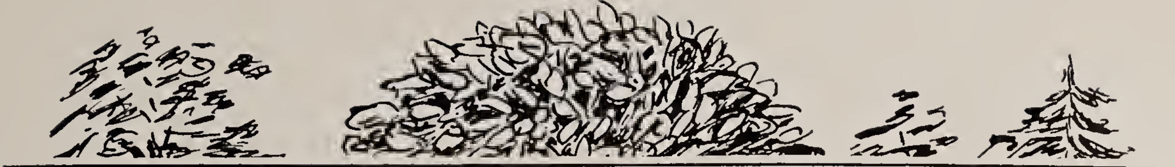


The Arboretum Bulletin

Vol. I. No. 1. Seattle, Washington December, 1936

INTRODUCING "THE BULLETIN"

An Arboretum for the Pacific Northwest is now assured. Not only is it assured but development work is actually progressing at a pace far beyond the fondest hopes of its many enthusiastic supporters.

With the varied possibilities offered by the Arboretum there will of course be a variety of happenings and experiences, so varied in fact that nearly everybody will find in them something of interest. Through the medium of The Bulletin we hope to pass these on to you for your enjoyment and your use, and if you are not already numbered among our many staunch supporters, to bring you into the fold.

We want to keep you informed of the progress of development of the Arboretum, of accessions of new seeds and plants, and any special gifts.

We desire to make available to you any information we gather about the new or rare species adapted to this region and their cultivation, about plant pests and how to combat them, and to offer suggestions for educational programs.

Finally, The Bulletin will also carry announcements of the blooming times of special groups and individual plants, of special lectures, of plants available for exchange and distribution, and interesting news items.

Hugo Winkenwerder.

PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT

A Museum like a library, unless properly planned and the materials scientifically arranged, has little value. The Arboretum of course is a museum, a museum of living woody plants.

Those who were interested in the establishment of an Arboretum in the Northwest felt that its proper development could not be carried out successfully without a carefully ordered base plan, one that would consider the scientific arrangement and which would at the same time take every advantage of the aesthetic possibilities.

This required first, a complete topographic map showing the elevations in two-foot contours and the location on this map of the trees now on the area. Funds to the amount of $5,468.00 were supplied by the State WERA for this purpose. The next step would be the arrangement of the groups according to botanical sequence, their requirements for soil, moisture and exposure, the amount of space to be allotted to each and the principles of landscape architecture. Although many of the details need to be worked out on the ground by local landscape architects and plant specialists, a general base plan was required as a starting place. A gift of $3,000.00 from the Seattle Garden Club made it possible to have such a plan prepared by a firm of landscape architects of national reputation.

On December 16, 1935, a WPA Project, jointly sponsored by the University of Washington and the Park Department of the City of Seattle, was put into operation. This provided for $166,629.00 of Federal Funds, and $129,660.00 additional in services and materials contributed by the University and the City. Under this project the following work was done:

1. *Surveys.* The surveys necessary as a preliminary to all development work were continued and kept ahead of all actual construction.

2. *Subsoiling.* 37 acres were subsoiled to a depth of 18 inches.

3. *Water System.* 4140 lineal feet of 4-inch cast iron pipe were laid to the alignment and grades established by the engineer on the project. Pipe was laid with a minimum cover of 24 inches. Cement was used for caulking the watermain joints. In sections of approximately 1500 feet the pipe was subjected to a bydrostatic pressure of 200 pounds per square inch (the normal working pressure in the pipe is 125 to 127 pounds) and found to be free from leaks. At intervals of 80 to 100 feet the pipe was tapped for two-inch service connections. In the area beginning approximately 95 feet east of the east end of McGraw Street the pipe was laid on piling due to the very unstable condition of the ground. Twenty-six two-pile bents with 8-inch cedar caps were driven with a hand-operated pile-driver constructed on the job. All the watermain trenches were backfilled and no trenching was done beyond the pipe laid. In addition to the mains 6,845 lineal feet of 2-inch pipe and 1,750 feet of 1-inch pipe were laid as part of the irrigation system. Economy snap valves were spaced approximately 80 feet apart. In addition to the pipe laid there were 5,425 lineal feet of open trenches dug ready to receive pipe.

4. *Drainage System.* 2,715 lineal feet of 4-inch, 1,120 lineal feet of 6-inch tile drains; and 360 lineal feet of 8-inch sewer pipe drains were laid. All trenches were dug one foot in width and the pipes covered with one foot of gravel. Three sand boxes were constructed.

5. *Greenhouse.* Approximately 70 cubic yards of earth were excavated on the greenhouse site.

6. *Entrances* at East Madison Street and Northlake Boulevard have been graded and improved with lawns and decorative plantings. Other plantings have been made in locations where immediate treatment was thought advisable. Gifts of approximately $7,500.00 worth of trees and shrubs have been set out.

This project was closed July 8, 1936, because the funds allotted were exhausted.

NEW PROJECTS

MEANWHILE preparations have been underway for new projects. In these the entire area was divided into six sections and a separate project prepared for each involving an average of something over $100,000.00 for each. They are designated as Sections A, B, C, D, E, and F, beginning at the Madison Street entrance.

These projects were very carefully prepared by our consulting engineer and were accompanied by beautiful isometric plans prepared by an expert landscape architect, the cost amounting to $975.00. Each section has three such plans; one, showing all work done or to be done underground such as water system, drainage and conduits; the second, the work on the surface such as roads, trails, and plantings; and the third, the features that will be above ground such as buildings, lighting system, and greenhouses.

The buildings include two propagation houses, each 25x60 feet; a greenhouse 25x140 feet; two pit houses, each 15x60 feet; a potting shed 20x50 feet; and two gate lodges at the entrances. One of the lodges will be built at the East Madison Street entrance and the other at the corner of Miller Stret and 26th Avenue North. The latter will have space for offices and both will provide living quarters for the caretakers. The lodges are beautifully designed by a firm of local architects and will be constructed with a veneer of Enumclaw granite.

The base plans provide for 24 miles of trails and an additional roadway on the upper side in the east portion.

Funds for Sections A, B, and C in the amount of $239,185 have been approved and the work started October 9, 1936. By October 30, 411 men were placed at work. Additional funds of approximately $500,000 are anticipated.

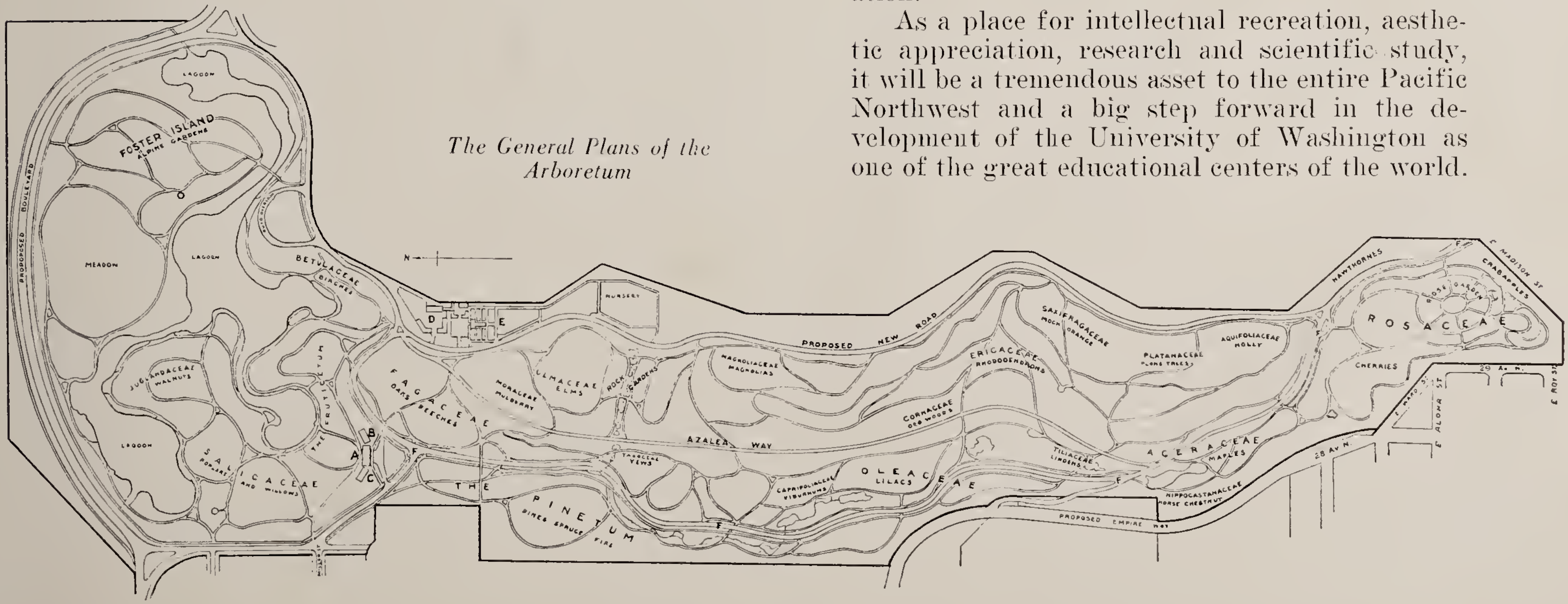
These projects also provide for extensive plantings. Seeds and plants are now being received from many sections of the country including practically every wooded section from Florida to New York and California to British Columbia. Excellent cooperation is being extended by nurserymen, Forest Experiment Stations, alumni of the College of Forestry, Forest Schools, State Foresters and other Arboretums.

LOCATION OF WASHINGTON PARK IDEAL

Washington Park is ideal for the development of an Arboretum. The climatic conditions, with the absence of extremes of temperatures and plenty of rainfall, will permit the growth of a larger variety of plants from all over the world than could be grown in another region. Topographically the area is quite diversified, offering a variety of conditions of soil, moisture and exposure. In addition to this the setting on the shores of Lake Washington, with a view of the snow-capped Cascades in the distance, offers a wonderful opportunity for landscaping.

The area is sufficiently removed from smoke and gases not to offer any difficulties from those sources, yet it is near enough to a large center of population to make it very accessible. It is particularly fortunate that it is just off the University Campus and so will lend itself to the departments of botany, forestry, pharmacy, and landscape gardening, for study and experimentation.

As a place for intellectual recreation, aesthetic appreciation, research and scientific study, it will be a tremendous asset to the entire Pacific Northwest and a big step forward in the development of the University of Washington as one of the great educational centers of the world.



The General Plans of the Arboretum

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